

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 An axle suspension system for a load-bearing vehicle is described which
comprises first and second mounting brackets secured to the longitudinally extending
frame members of the vehicle. First and second lower control arms are pivotally
5 secured at their forward ends to the first and second mounting brackets and extend
rearwardly therefrom. First and second axle supports are positioned rearwardly of the
first and second mounting brackets and have the rearward ends of the first and second
lower control rods pivotally secured thereto. An axle and wheel assembly is secured to
10 the first and second axle supports. First and second air springs are operatively secured
to the first and second axle supports. A stabilizer bar assembly is provided and
combines the functions of a stabilizer bar and upper control arms. The stabilizer bar
assembly includes a central base portion which is pivotally secured to the first and
15 second axle supports and which has forwardly extending end portions provided at the
opposite ends thereof. The forward ends of the end portions of the stabilizer bar
assembly are pivotally connected to the first and second mounting brackets to perform
the function of upper control arms. The stabilizer bar assembly combines the function
of a stabilizer bar and upper control arms.